London. N. 6.

AN ABSTRACT OF THE *Rules, Orders* and *Constitutions*, Of the Company of WATER-MEN AND LIGHTER-MEN,

Made Pursuant to a late Act of Parliament, Enacted in the 11th and 12th Years of Our Soveraign Lord King *WILLIAM* III. (Intituled, *An Act for the Explanation, and better Execution of former Acts made touching Water-men and Wherry-men Rowing on the River of* Thames, *and for the better Ordering and Governing the said Water-men, Wherry-men and Lighter-men, upon the said River, between* Gravesend *and* Windsor) for their better Order and Government, as they were Examin'd, Alter'd, Approv'd and Confirm'd, the 18th day of *March*, in the Year of Our Lord 1700. Pursuant to the Directions of the said Act.

LONDON:
Printed by F. *Collins*, Printer to the Company of Water-men and Lighter-men. 1701.

Engl. Hist. Soc. Vol. 4.

To the Rulers, Auditors and Aſſiſtants, of the Company of Water-men and Lighter-men, Rowing on the River of Thames.

GENTLEMEN,

THE following Abſtract was made and intended for your more ready Information, and greater Eaſe in the Diſcharge of your reſpective Places, (the By-Laws themſelves being long and many) if I have committed any Miſtake or Error therein, I hope it will be Excuſed: And if it doth give you ſuch Information and Eaſe as aboveſaid, my Deſign is fully Anſwered, that am,

Your moſt Humble Servant,

E. KNIGHT.

AN

ABSTRACT

OF THE

Rules, Orders and *Conſtitutions,*

Of the Company of

Water-men and Lighter-men, *&c.*

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Order--IMprimis, No Water-man, or Lighter-man, to Work, *&c.* on the *Lord's-day*, except ſuch Tolerated as the Law directs, on——Penalty to the Poor-----	00	05	0

2. None

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
2. None to Curſe, or Swear, or any ways prophane the Name of God, on pain, if an Apprentice, to be Corrected, if a Maſter, to loſe his Way and Turn, over and above the——Penalty in another Act ſpecified——	00	01	0
3. Rulers, Auditors, and Aſſiſtants, to take Turn, or provide another in their rooms, to ſuppreſs unlawful *Sunday*-Workers, or pay——	00	02	6
4. No Water-man to take an Apprentice until Free Seven Years, and then but one at a time, ——Penalty——	20	00	0
Ibid. No Lighter-man to have an Apprentice till he is Owner of two Lighters, or Flat Boats, nor but one Apprentice at a time, either in his own, or in the Name of any other, ——Penalty——	20	00	0

Ibid.

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Ibid. Lighter-men may enter their Apprentices to Water-men, or their Widows, with intent to be made Free Water-men, when their Indentures ſhall expire.	00	00	0
5. No Water-man ſhall Imploy any but Water-men (or their Apprentices) ——Penalty——	00	05	0
Ibid. The like Order for the Lighter-men, ſave under the greater ——Penalty——	00	10	0
6. No Apprentice to buy out his Time, nor live at his own Hands, (on pain of Serving ſuch time over again) nor Maſter ſell the ſame to his Apprentice, on the ——Penalty of——	10	00	0
7. Apprentices marrying in their Apprenticeſhip, ſhall be Croſs'd out, *&c.*	00	00	0
8. Quarteridge Yearly——	00	02	0

	l.	s.	d.
9. None to keep a Boy upon Trial above Sixty Days, on pain to forfeit for the first Week 2 *s.* 6 *d.* and so double for every Week after.	00	00	0
10. For not appearing upon a second Summons, 1 *s.* and so double for every after Summons, till there be an Appearance.	00	01	0
11. None to Ply till the People arrive at the Mark set for that purpose, nor stand before the Plying-place, nor follow any Fare further than the Lower Mark——Penalty——	00	00	6
12. All Rowing with the Tide or Stream, to give Way to such as Row cross, or against the same, on pain to bear all Damages which may happen thereby, and pay to the Poor for every Offence——	00	00	6

Ibid.

	l.	s.	d.
Ibid. Any that ſhall hinder the Paſſing, or Landing of any Nobleman's Barge, or Tilt-Boat, Row Barge, *&c.* to Pay—	00	00	6
13. Every Water-man who ſhall Abuſe their Fares, either by Words or Blows, or that deny them the Choice of their Water-man; likewiſe all who ſhall Ply any other Man's Fare out of his Boat, or from the Stairs, or Shore, or Ply for a luſty Fellow, or retain People in their Boats, or ſtop up the Stairs or Landing, or Abuſe any Officer appointed by the Company, to pay for each Offence 1 *s.* And every Lighter-man ſtopping up any Stairs, or Landing-place, with their Lighters, or other Craft——	00	02	0
14. Every Water-man or Lighter-man, that ſhall Abuſe any Ruler, Auditor, or Aſſiſtant, to pay——	00	10	0

15. No

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
15. No Water-man to be Maſter of any Row-Barge, Tilt-Boat, or Lighthorſe-man, *&c.* unleſs deputed by the Court of Aſſiſtants——Penalty--- ———	02	00	0
16. No Maſter of any Row-Barge, Lighthorſe-man, or Tilt-Boat, ſhall Imploy any to Row in their Boats but able Watermen, or their skilful Apprentices, nor give them leſs than their full ſhare of all Monies Earned therein———--Penalty————	02	00	0
17. No ſuch Maſter, *&c.* to ſuffer Paſſengers to be on the Bailes of ſuch Boats, or lay Goods thereon--———Penalty————	00	10	0

The

☞ *The following Orders relates more particularly to the Watermen Plying the* Graveſend-*Ferry.*

18. NO Tilt-Boat Maſter to carry above Thirty Seven Paſſengers at one time; and three more, if brought on Board in their Paſſage,——Penalty for each Paſſenger over the ſaid Number —— —— —— ——	00	02	6
Ibid. Maſters of *Graveſend*, *Grays*, *Greenhith*, *Purfleet* and *Erith* Wherries, to carry but Seven Paſſengers at one time; and two more if call'd in by the way,—Penalty for each Paſſenger over the ſaid Number——	00	02	6
19. Maſters of *Graveſend* Wherries may Ply to their Servant (beſides the Perſon working with ſuch Servant) one Boat of a Tide, and no more——Penalty—— —— —— —— —— ——	00	05	0

Ibid.

	l.	s.	d.
Ibid. Every one that ſhall ſtand to Ply before the Plying-place, or lay Hands on any Fare or Paſſenger, or their Goods, without their Conſent; or on any Coach or Horſe-Bridle, ſhall, beſides Satisfaction to the Party wronged, forfeit and pay——	00	01	0
Ibid. Such Water-men that ſhall interrupt Perſons ingaged to go with another, or that ſhall proffer to carry any Fare, or Paſſenger, for leſs than the Price ſet forth by the Court of Lord Mayor and Aldermen, or have more Plyers than one, to each particular Boat (except as before excepted) ſhall forfeit for each Offence——	00	02	6
Ibid. Boat-keepers (while ſuch) to Ply no Fare, or Paſſengers— Penalty ——	00	01	0
Ibid. None to acquaint Fares that the Plyer is not to carry them, (tho' true) —Penalty——	00	01	0

Ibid.

	l.	s.	d.
Ibid. No Plying to carry Fares, or Paſſengers, on *Saturday* Nights (in reſpect to the *Lords-day* following) after Seven of the Clock (except allowed by Lawful Warrant, *&c.*) ——Penalty——	00	05	0
Ibid. No undervaluing each other, when Plying, by reaſon of the greatneſs or ſmalneſs of each others Boats——Penalty——	00	10	0
Ibid. No Plying at one Place, and ſending their Paſſengers to another to take Boat——Penalty——	00	02	0
Ibid. No diſpoſing of any Fare or Paſſengers to each other for Gain——Penalty——	00	01	6
20. No Turning to Windward (except one Trip in each particular Reach where Neceſſity requires) ——Penalty to a Tilt-Boat Maſter 10 *s.* to a Wherry-man——	00	02	6

Thus far touching Water-men Plying Graveſend-*Ferry.*

21. No

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
21. No Plying Fares, or Paſſengers, except the Plyers Boat be ready to receive them——Penalty———	00	05	0
22. Poor Penſioners allowed Yearly Twenty Shillings a-piece (except when otherwiſe alter'd by the Court of Aſſiſtants.)	00	00	0
23. Apprentices to acquaint the Rulers, at the next Court, when out of Service, or loſe ſuch Time wherein they are ſo out.	00	00	0
24. No *Weſt-Country* Waterman ſhall carry above Ten Paſſengers (at one time) nor carry any from Stairs to Stairs, with intent to Ply more Paſſengers, ——Penalty———	00	01	0
25. Auditors Choſen in *July* Yearly.	00	00	0

26. None

	l.	s.	d.
26. None to be Bound Apprentice under Eighten Years of Age, and of a healthful Body, except the Son of a Water-man or Lighter-man : The ſame to be done at the Common-Hall, when the Majority of the Rulers are preſent ; the ſaid Rulers or Clerk acting the contrary to pay 10 *l.* And in caſe any Apprentice be Bound without a Church-Certificate, or Affidavit of their ſaid Age, then the Ruler, *&c.* to pay—— ——	02	00	0
27. None to have Comptrol in the Hall but Water-men or Lighter-men (the Lord Mayor excepted.)	00	00	0
28. The Chair-man to be Choſen (from among the Rulers) in the Court of Aſſiſtants ; who ſhall keep the Chair, till the Court be Adjourn'd, by the Majority of them, or forfeit——	05	00	0

29. Offen-

	l.	s.	d.
29. Offenders refuſing to pay their Fines (unleſs proved) to be at the Charge of ſuch proof.	00	00	0
30. None to carry Fares, or Paſſengers, for leſs than the Rates and Prices ſet by the Court of Lord Mayor, *&c.* upon pain to make Satisfaction to every Party wronged, and likewiſe to pay—	00	00	6
31. None to Row upon Wagers unleſs Licenſed by the Rulers. — Challenger to pay	00	10	0
— Challenged —	00	05	0
32. Rulers to Summons the Auditors and Aſſiſtants at leaſt four times in the Year, (that is to ſay) in the Months of *May*, *Auguſt*, *November* and *February*, or in default each Ruler to pay—	02	00	0
33. Auditors and Aſſiſtants not appearing to their Summons without ſome lawful excuſe, to pay—	00	02	6

34. No

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
34. No Woman to Ply, or carry Paſſengers, or Goods, on pain of paying all Charge of Proſecution, and for every Offence	00	01	0
35. None to lay Boats or Lighters, *&c.* ſo as to hinder the orderly Navigating of Paſſengers or Goods——Penalty to every Water-man offending 6 *d.* to every Lighter-man	00	01	6
36. None to Ply with the next Water-man in Turn, for any Town, Stairs, or Plying-Place, at which they Live or Ply, except the Water-man and Fare have knowledge of each other, or that the Fare ask for a Water-man living at ſuch Town, *&c.* —Penalty	00	00	6
37. Rulers to ſet the ſhort Plying-Places in *June* Yearly, —Penalty to each refuſing 5 *s.* and the long Plying-places in *July* in every Year—Penalty	00	10	0

	l.	s.	d.
38. All Water-men who keep Boys in their Boats without Licenſe from the Rulers, to forfeit Weekly —— ——	00	02	6
39. Every Perſon made Free or Regiſter'd, to pay Six Shillings towards a new Hall, and its Repairs; and all Rulers every Year to give 2002 *l.* Security, for the faithful Diſcharge of their Truſt.	00	00	0
40. Diſorderly Apprentices to be Corrected as uſual for their Offences, or pay —— ——	00	05	0
41. Rulers (as ſuch) to bring no Action or Suit, nor Expend in the Companies Affairs any Sum exceeding Five Pounds, in any one Year, without the Advice and Conſent of the Court of Aſſiſtants, upon pain of their own bearing and paying all ſuch Money as ſhall be ſo Expended exceeding the ſaid Sum. —— —— —— ——	00	00	0

42. Ap-

	l.	s.	d.
42. Apprentices ſhall Row two whole Years before they are permitted under the Seal of the Company, to Convoy either Paſſengers or Goods by Water—Penalty to the Maſter of ſuch Servant for every Offence	00	02	6
43. All Apprentices who ſhall leave His Majeſties Service to Sail in Merchants Service, or for a Land Soldier, *&c.* to be for ever excluded from Rowing as a Water-man or Lighterman.	00	00	0
44. Husbands who ſhall leave their Wives a General Letter of Attorney, ſuch Wives are Intituled to enter Servants, and alſo to make them Free when their Terms expire.	00	00	0
45. No Towing one Loaded Boat after another—Penalty-	00	02	6

46. Com-

	l.	s.	d.
46. Complaints proved upon Oath the Witneſſes to be recompenced for loſs of Time; but if no proof, the Perſons complaining to be puniſhed.	00	00	0
47. None to ſtick at Staff, ſo as to hinder the orderly paſſing of Boats in and out of any Stairs, *&c.* or to, or from the Roes-end of Boats——Penalty to be paid by the Maſter for his Servants Offence———	00	00	0
48. Rulers, Auditors and Aſſiſtants, to Serve the Company *gratis*, except the Allowance of Drink and Firing as heretofore. ——Penalty to each (beſides what the Law doth inflict) for being negligent of their Duty--	02	00	0
49. None to Ply Fares along the Shore, or while taking Boat——Penalty——— ———	00	00	0

50. W

	l.	s.	d.
50. Way to be kept at all Plying-places between *Woolwich* and *Kingſtone*, but not to hinder keeping of Turn at Six a Clock in the Summer, and Seven in the Winter (provided that none loſe their Turn, for carrying Six-pence in Oars, and Three-pence in Sculls, before the ſaid hours) —Penalty——	00	00	6
51. None to Ply, and carry Fares when in Drink—Penalty for each Offence—— ——	00	01	0
52. None to be Rulers, Auditors, or Aſſiſtants, that keep Victualling Houſes, or ſell Brandy, or other Liquors, nor be Choſen an Aſſiſtant, but, at, (and for) the Place at which he uſually Plies: And in caſe the Clerk ſhall Enter any one as an Aſſiſtant, contrary to the Tenor hereof, after Information to forfeit his Place and Office——	00	00	0

	l.	s.	d.
53. All Rates and Prizes for carrying Goods and Paſſengers, to be printed at the Diſcretion of the Rulers.	00	00	0
54. Aſſiſtants to give in what Complaints they take, within Ten Days after received, or forfeit for each Offence———	00	01	0
Ibid. Officers who neglect to Proſecute Offenders till the Thirty Days mentioned in the Act be paſt, after the Offence committed, ſhall forfeit their Place and Office.	00	00	0
Ibid. That no Fees be taken by Rulers, Clerks and Officers, in each their reſpective relations, then in the Table; and if more be demanded or received, the Rulers to forfeit 5 *s.* and the Clerks and Officers their reſpective places.	00	05	0

Ibid.

	l.	s.	d.
Ibid. Forfeiture of such as refuse to pay the Fees (besides all necessary Charges to oblige them thereto)———	00	05	0
55. Any Ruler, Auditor, or Assistant, that shall Smoak Tobacco in the Hall in time of Publick Business, to pay———	00	00	6
56. All Boats and Lighters, *&c.* to be Marked and Numbred (in Fourteen Days after notice) Wherries on the Starboard Quarter, behind the Back-board, and Lighters on the Boughs——Penalty Weekly-	00	05	0

ORDERS which relate more particularly to the Regulating of Lighter-men.

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Imprimis, Lighter-men must take their Legal Turn in Unloading Ships, or forfeit to every Person wronged Forty Shillings, and to the Poor of their Company	00	05	0
2. Lighters happening to be loos'd, or turn'd a-drift from any Ship, *&c.* if brought on Board the next Tide after, shall have their Turn as before; and whosoever shall hinder the same, shall forfeit to the Person wronged Twenty Shillings, and to the Poor	00	05	0
3. Lighter-men who shall buy Coals of one sort, and sell them for another, shall forfeit Forty Shillings, one half to the Informer, and the other to the Poor	02	00	0

4. Lighter-

	l.	s.	d.
4. Lighter-men who bring their Lighters as high as *Tower-Dock*, ſhall put them under Way, and in their proper Ranks, and not ſtrive for the Bridge one before the other; the Offender to pay	00	05	0
5. No Lighter-man ſhall Navigate two Lighters on the Flood-tide through *London-Bridge* at one time (except at High-water) nor in the Ebb at a Horſeing Water, upon pain of paying all Damage thereby happening, and to the Poor Five Shillings; and thoſe who Imploy Unskilful Perſons to Work Lighters, whereby any ſtop is made in the Bridge, the Maſter ſhall pay all Damage thereby occaſioned, and to the Poor Five Shillings	00	05	0

6. All

	l.	s.	d.
6. All Lighters ſtopping in the Bridge, the Perſon who occaſioned the ſame ſhall give notice thereof by Boat, to all Perſons Working Lighters, *&c.* as far on the Flood-tide as St. *Katharines*, and on the Ebb as *Queen-hith*; but if it happen in the Night Seaſon, then to ſet a Light in ſome convenient place, to prevent others danger, upon pain to forfeit 10 *s.* But if the Offender be an Apprentice, and the Maſter refuſe to pay the ſaid Penalty, then ſuch Apprentice to be Corrected at the Hall as Water-mans Apprentices are uſually Corrected	00	10	0

7. Lighter-

	l.	s.	d.
7. Lighter-men ſhall Sell Pool Meaſure, or forfeit for every Vatt of Coals otherwiſe ſold (beſides Satisfaction to the Perſon wronged) Ten Pounds, and to the Poor Five Shillings; & the Perſon defrauding, ſhall be Poſted at each corner of *Billings-gate*-Market; And all Perſons Informing againſt them, ſhall have for every ſuch Information duly proved———	02	00	0
8. One Lighter-man uſing anothers Craft, (without leave of the Owner) ſhall be obliged to pay all Monies earn'd in the ſaid Craft to the Owner, and to the Poor———	00	05	0
9. All Lighter-men that buy Coals on Board of any Ship, &c. before they are offer'd to ſome Dealer on the Shore—Penalty 5 *l.* and the Informant to be rewarded as the Rulers in their Diſcretion ſhall think fit.	05	00	0

10. None

	l.	s.	d.
10. None to Work but what are Regiſter'd, upon the—Penalty of Five Pounds *per* Week, and ſo proportionably for a leſſer time: Nor a Regiſter'd Man Work Lighters, *&c.* for an Unregiſter'd Owner (Wharfingers and Wood-mongers of *London* excepted) —Penalty for every ſuch Offence—	00	10	0
11. No picking or culling Coals on Board any Ship, *&c.* (where others have a part thereof) for every Chaldron loaded, and among which ſuch Coals are put—Penalty—	00	05	0
12. No Partnerſhip to be held with an Unregiſter'd Man, on the—Penalty of paying 10*s.* *per* Day for every Lighter ſo Work'd, and for every Chaldron of Coals ſold in ſuch Partnerſhip—	01	00	0

13. Lighter-

	l.	s.	d.
13. Lighter-men may exchange their Turns on Board any Ship when loading Coals, provided the Perſon receiving the benefit, loads no more than the former was to have done; and whoever ſhall hinder the ſame, ſhall forfeit to the Perſon Offended Ten Shillings, and to the Poor———	00	10	0
14. No Lighter-man ſhall turn another Man's Lighter, *&c.* a-drift, under the—Penalty of	00	05	0
Ibid. Nor convert any Man's Skiff, Headfaſt's, or other Conveniencies, to their own Uſe, but ſhall make full Satisfaction, according to the wrong the Owner may ſuſtain thereby, and to the Poor for each Offence—	00	05	0
15. All Controverſies happening about Damages done, to, or by Lighters in *Bridewell-Dock*, to be determin'd by the Rulers; the Party refuſing to ſubmit thereunto, to pay———	01	00	0

16. None

	l.	s.	d.
16. None ſhall Work any great Lighter through *London-Bridge* on the Flood-tide, before the Water is of ſufficient height to carry the ſame over the Hill——Penalty———	00	05	0
17. Perſons Informing the Rulers of any Unregiſter'd Man Working Lighters, *&c.* ſhall (if due proof be made thereof) receive of the ſaid Rulers——	01	00	0
18. Clerks and Officers belonging to this Company, ſhall be henceforth Choſen and Eſtabliſh'd by the Rulers, Auditors and Aſſiſtants, and the Clerk to give ſuch Security for his Place as the Court ſhall direct--	00	00	0

19. Five

	l.	s.	d.
19. Five Perſons who have been neither Rulers, or Auditors of this Company, for Seven Years paſt, ſhall be Annually Choſen from amongſt the Aſſiſtants, whoſe Buſineſs ſhall be to inſpect Accompts after every half Years Audit, and to ſee that a fair Balance be made between the Rulers and Auditors; and in caſe of Controverſy, to reconcile the Difference, or report the Occaſion to the next General Court, where the ſame ſhall be Heard and Determin'd. And the ſaid Five Perſons, if they find any Fraudulent, or Unjuſt Uſage of the Company's Stock, or Treaſure, to Sue the Offenders for the ſame; the Charge to be Allowed out of the Company's Stock.	00	00	0

20. All

	l.	s.	d.
20. All Damages done by Water-men, or Lighter-men, to each other in their Boats, or Lighters, ſhall be left to the Diſcretion of the Rulers to Decide the ſame, the Party refuſing to pay	00	05	0
Finally, All Orders to be Read twice in a Year, (that is to ſay) on the Firſt of *March*, and the Firſt of *September*; and the Water-man or Lighter-man Abſenting himſelf, to pay	00	00	4

F I N I S.